On May 19, 2010 and after years of hard work, Congressman Costa joined with local leaders and veterans to break ground on the first ever Veterans Home in Fresno County. Over 10 years ago, as a state lawmaker, he helped place the home on the list of locations being considered by the legislature and fought successfully for it to be approved. Fresno, along with Los Angeles and Redding, made the final cut.

As a Member of Congress, Costa or a member of his staff attended monthly meetings in the district over the last five years to coordinate planning and construction. Thanks to his work, the Department of Veterans Affairs, under the State Veterans Home Construction program, allocated 65% of the costs of construction for the project. The VA has provided over \$92 million for this project.

The Fresno Veterans Home will have 300 beds and employ approximately 452 permanent employees. It will be a home for Valley veterans seeking rehabilitative, residential and meical care services.

"The Fresno Veterans Home is just one of the ways we can say thank you for everything our Valley's veterans have given us," said Congressman Costa at the groundbreaking. "This home is a place where our veterans can come to live; it is a place where they can receive health care; and it is a place where our veterans can enjoy the quality of life they deserve and have earned.

"Our Valley owes an immeasurable debt of gratitude to the countless men and women who answer the call of duty and serve our nation so selflessly. Their stories are the American story. Their sacrifice and bravery must never be forgotten.

"It is the honor of a lifetime to have done my part in making the Fresno Veterans Home a reality. Whether it's fighting for projects like this or ensuring that our soldiers receive the benefits they have earned, I will continue to do everything in my power to serve our Valley's veterans, just as they have served our country.

Supporting Valley veterans is one of Congressman Costa's top priorities. Along with working on the Fresno Veterans Home, Costa has supported legislation to ensure that veterans receive the care they earned and have deserved. Costa also works personally with Valley veterans to help them secure benefits or medals owed to them by the federal government. Since taking office, Costa has personally helped over 650 Valley veterans cut through red tape at the Veterans

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For more information on Congressman Costa's work on behalf of Valley veterans, click here .